



Transition to the Montana Common Core Assessments

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Montana Common Core Standards and Assessments

Announcing the adoption
and transition to

**Montana Common Core Standards
and Assessments**

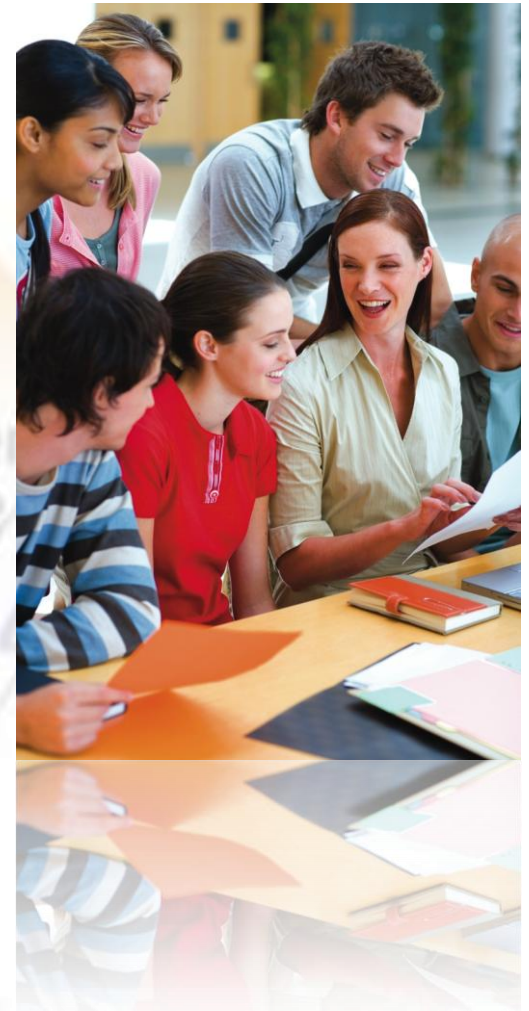
by the Montana Board of Public Education
on **November 4, 2011.**



The Montana Office of Public Instruction will provide
on-going information, training and resources.

Website: <http://www.opi.mt.gov/MontanaCommonCoreStandards>

Spring 2012



SMARTER

Balanced Assessment Consortium

Every Montana Student
College and Career
Ready

28 states
representing
44% of K-12
students
21 governing, 7
advisory states
Washington
state is fiscal
agent

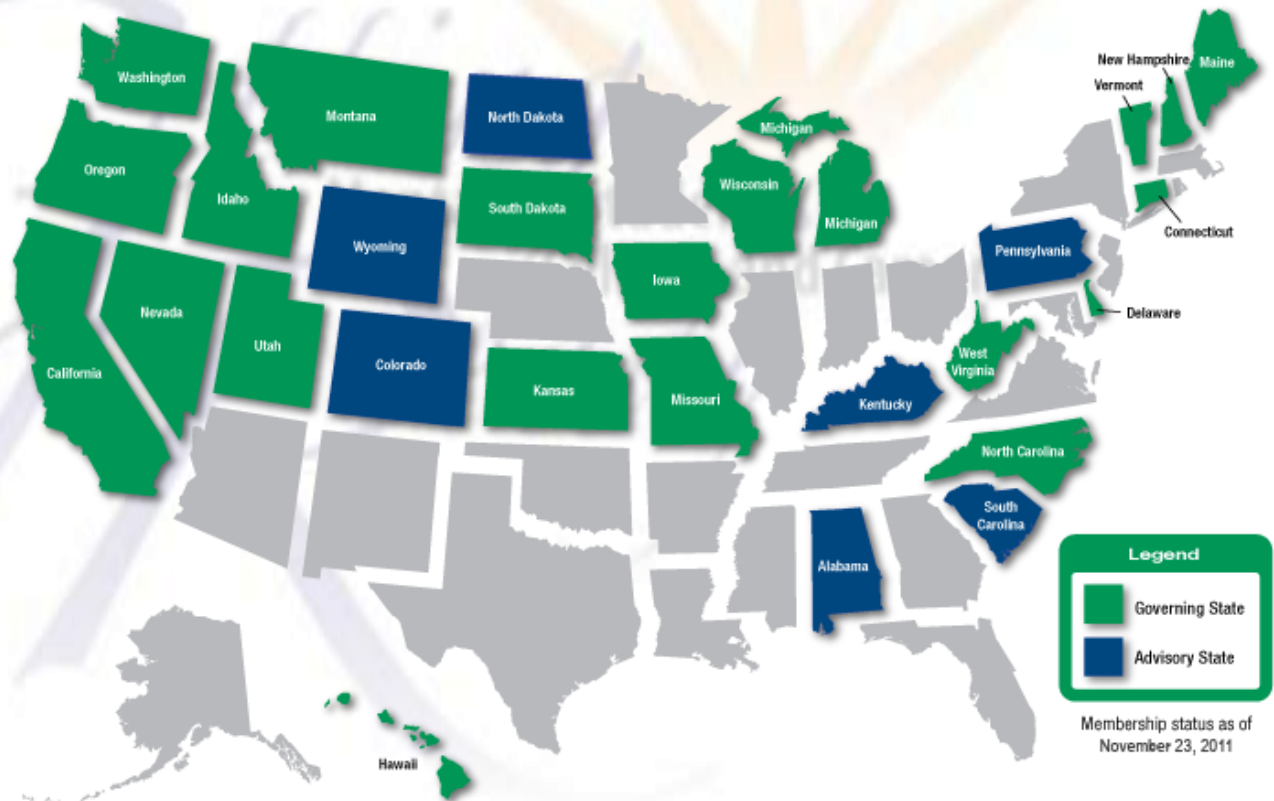
The map shows the following states highlighted:

- Green States (21):** Washington, Oregon, California, Nevada, Idaho, Utah, Montana, Wyoming, Colorado, Kansas, Missouri, Iowa, Wisconsin, Michigan, Illinois, Indiana, Ohio, Kentucky, West Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Alabama, Georgia, Florida, Louisiana, Mississippi, Arkansas, Texas, Oklahoma, New Mexico, Arizona, and Hawaii.
- Blue States (7):** North Dakota, South Dakota, Nebraska, Minnesota, Wisconsin, Michigan, Pennsylvania, New York, Vermont, New Hampshire, Maine, Connecticut, Rhode Island, Massachusetts, New Jersey, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana, Texas, Oklahoma, New Mexico, Arizona, and Hawaii.

Legend:

- Green square: Member State
- Blue square: Non-Member State

- 28 states representing 44% of K-12 students
- 21 governing, 7 advisory states
- Washington state is fiscal agent

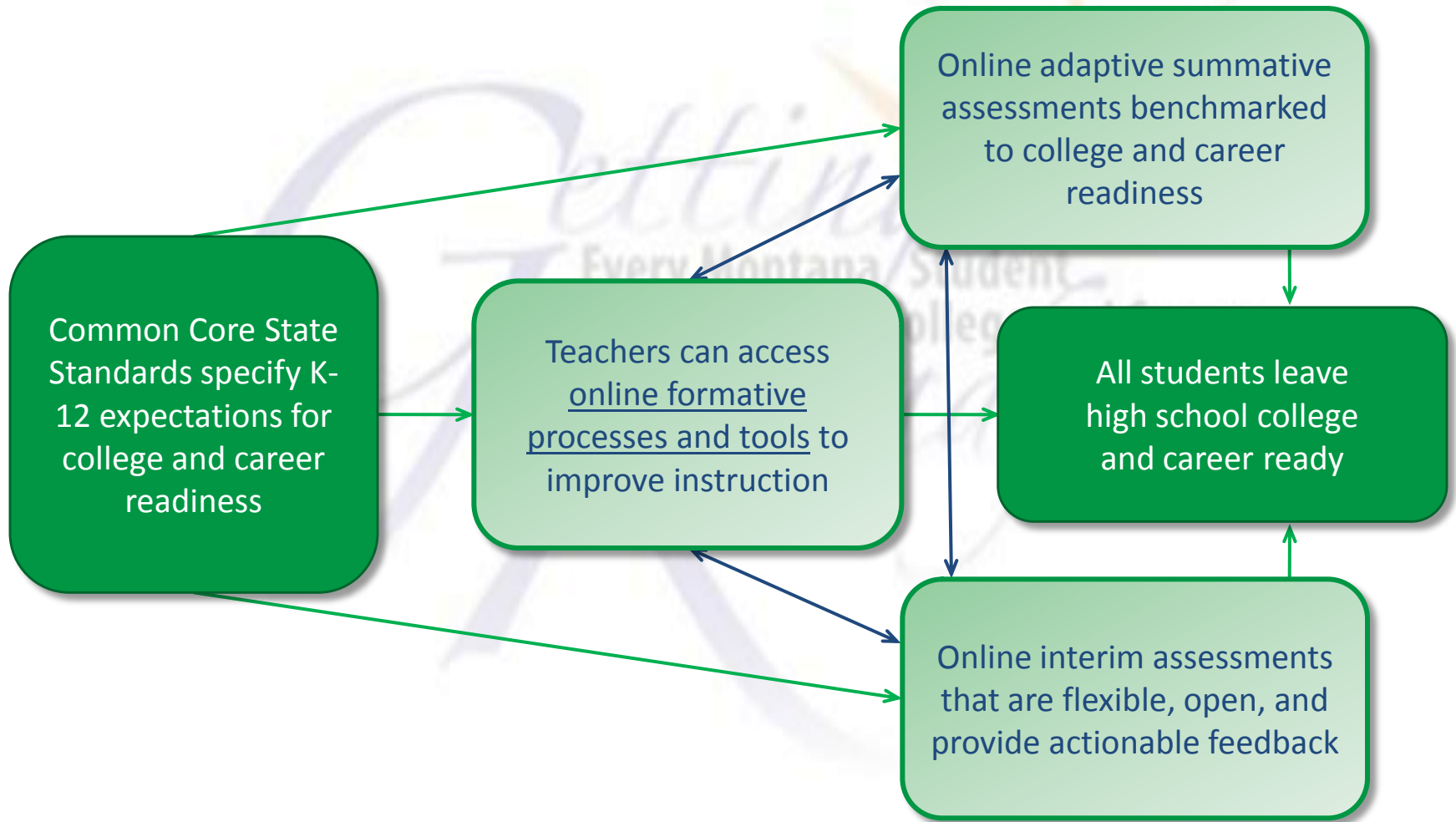


The Purpose of the Consortium

- To develop a set of comprehensive and innovative assessments for grades 3-8 and high school in English language arts and mathematics aligned to the Common Core State Standards
- To ensure that all students leave high school prepared for postsecondary success in college or a career through increased student learning and improved teaching.

The assessments shall be operational across consortium states in the 2014-15 school year.

Assessment System Components



Assessments Not Included in SMARTER

- CRT-Alternate
- Science

Assessment Between 2012 and 2014-15

- CRT based on “old” Montana standards
 - Reporting stays the same
- Field testing
 - Items aligned to Montana Common Core Standards (MCCS)
 - Progressive release of field test items aligned to MCCS

Effect of MCCS on the 2013 MontCAS

- Operational (scored) items
 - where possible, items will align to both the previous Montana Standards and the new Montana Common Core Standards (MCCS)
- Field test (non-scored) items
 - will be written to align with the MCCS, targeting standards that are similar to those in the previous Montana Standards

Reporting to Which Standards?

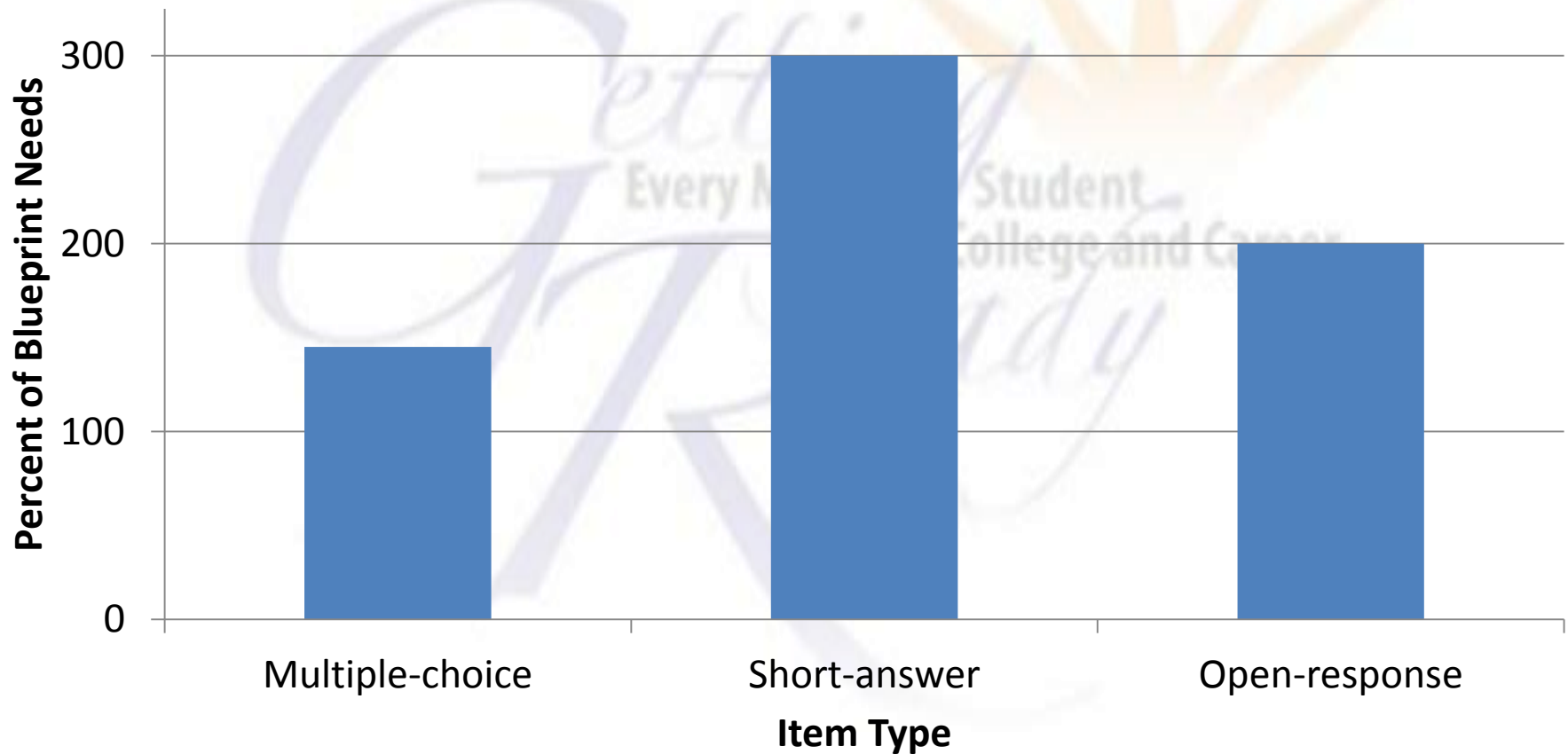
- Operational test scores will be reported according to the Montana Standards
- Released operational items will be coded both to Montana Standards and MCCS where appropriate
- All MCCS field test items will be released and coded to MCCS, as well as to the Montana Standards if appropriate
- Only one standard will be coded in MARS, but a static document will be created to show cross-coding where applicable

Transition Plan

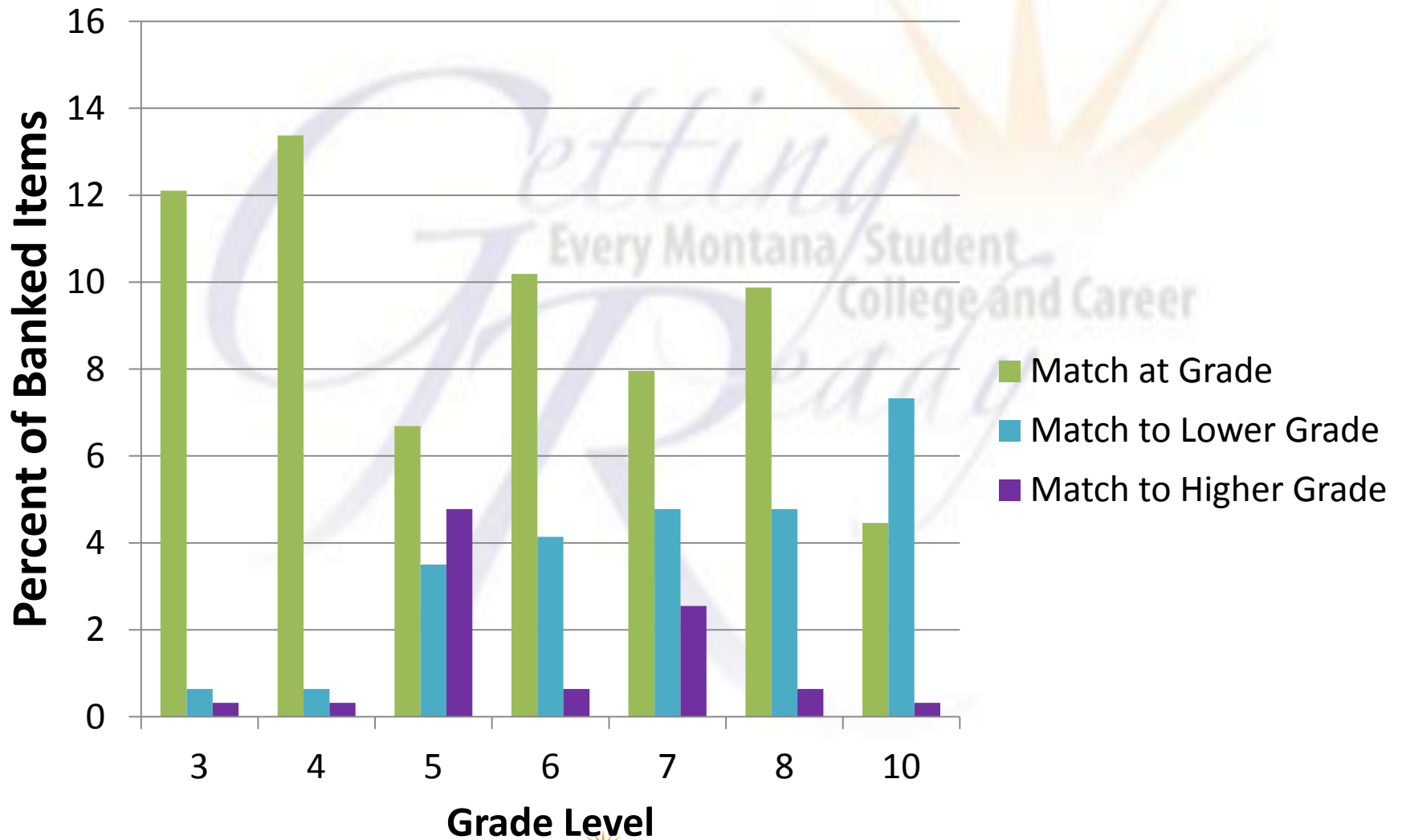
- Continue to focus on items that will meet the existing MontCAS test blueprint
- Gradually introduce items that also align to MCCS into the test
- Code test items to both sets of standards for as long as this is practical and desirable
- Stop developing and field testing new items that match *only* the “old” Montana Standards

Current State of Item Bank

Typical Common Core Alignment of Mathematics Item Bank



ELA Item Bank Alignment



Assessment Item Differences

- Many of the standards are very similar between Montana Standards and MCCS
- Priority will be made of first field-testing items that match both sets of standards, so differences will be minimized

Mathematics Differences

- Changes of grade level: in some cases MCCS will introduced concepts at an earlier or later grade than Montana Standards
- MCCS is more focused in some areas, leading to more precisely targeted content
- MCCS calls for a larger percentage of DoK 3 items
- MCCS has special reference to “fluency” at all grades; generally interpreted to mean “without use of a calculator”

ELA Differences

•Passages

- more focus on informational texts, with more informational than literary at higher grade levels

Text Type Distribution Goals for 2013 MontCAS

Text Type	Grade 4	Grade 8	Grade 10
Literary	50%	45%	37.50%
Informational	50%	55%	62.50%

- focus on comparative analysis, so more than one text or stimulus will take the place of single reading passages

ELA Differences

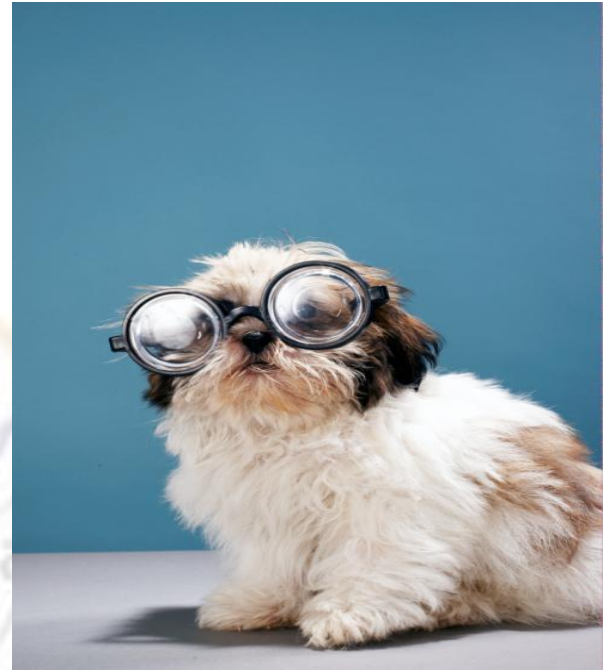
- Items

- *Research choices*: found in CCSS Writing Standard, so will not be assessed on 2013 MontCAS
- *Steps in a process*: emphasize the relationship of items in a sequence and de-emphasize the basic ordering of steps
- *Genre identification*: emphasize the structure and features of different text types, rather than genre *per se*
- *Fact vs. opinion*: students will identify and analyze an author's or character's point of view, purpose, or bias and evaluate conflicting viewpoints
- *Text features*: at grade 3, this standard focuses on locating and identifying text features that organize information. At grade 4 and above, this standard asks students to analyze features of sections of text.

CRT Released Items and MARS

- 2012 – 2014 CRT administrations
 - Traditional field test positions will be used to pilot MCCS items
 - All assessed MCCS items will be released each year on MARS
 - Multiple choice in late May
 - Constructed Response in September
 - MARS interactive site will report released items coded to Montana standards and MCCS
 - NOTE: Very few released items will be coded to the Montana standards in 2012

To learn more...



- SMARTER

www.k12.wa.us/SMARTER

- Getting Ready

<http://opi.mt.gov/MTCommonCore/>

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